

Sec. 98. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Education the sum of \$9,950,000 for educational technology.

2. The Department of Education shall distribute the money appropriated by subsection 1 as follows:

(a) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant money to local school districts for schools within the school district to acquire the minimal level of educational technology that is necessary to provide a networked computer for each classroom, as recommended by the Commission:

For the Fiscal Year 2003-2004..... \$1,250,000

For the Fiscal Year 2004-2005..... \$1,250,000

(b) For the Commission on Educational Technology to provide grants to local school districts for the repair, replacement or upgrade of computer hardware and software, including, without limitation, contracts for maintenance:

For the Fiscal Year 2003-2004..... \$2,500,000

For the Fiscal Year 2004-2005..... \$2,500,000

(c) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant to local school districts for hardware, software and contracting services to provide or enhance technical support to the school districts:

For the Fiscal Year 2003-2004..... \$625,000

For the Fiscal Year 2004-2005..... \$625,000

(d) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant to local school districts for pilot programs that demonstrate best practices for the use of educational technology to improve the achievement of pupils:

For the Fiscal Year 2003-2004..... \$150,000

For the Fiscal Year 2004-2005..... \$150,000

(e) For the Commission on Educational Technology to distribute for the KLVX Distance Learning Satellite Service \$400,000

(f) For the Commission on Educational Technology to grant to the Division of State Library and Archives of the Department of Cultural Affairs for licenses to allow school libraries access to research databases and other on-line resources appropriate for pupils \$500,000

3. The sums appropriated by paragraphs (a) to (d), inclusive, of subsection 2 are available for either fiscal year. Any balance of those sums must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2005, and reverts to the State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.

4. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection 2 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2005, and reverts to the State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.

Sec. 99. 1. To receive a grant of money pursuant to section 98 of this act, a school district must:

(a) Complete forms provided by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

(b) Submit a written request to the Commission on Educational Technology that identifies the schools within the school district which need educational technology and the financial needs of those schools to obtain the educational technology.

(c) Submit a plan to the Commission on Educational Technology for the use of educational technology to improve the instruction and academic achievement of pupils, based upon the most recent version of the plan adopted by the Commission pursuant to NRS 388.795 for the use of educational technology in the public schools of this state. A school district may, as part of its plan and upon approval of the Commission, elect to use refurbished computers that do not meet the technical standards established by the Commission.

(d) Submit a plan for evaluation in accordance with guidelines submitted by the Commission on Educational Technology that includes the effectiveness of the use of educational technology in improving the academic achievement of pupils.

(e) Provide any additional information requested by the Commission on Educational Technology.

2. The Commission on Educational Technology shall determine the amount of money that must be distributed to school districts based upon the needs of each school district and the wealth of the school district relative to the other school districts in this state.

3. A school district that receives a grant of money pursuant to section 98 of this act shall:

(a) Account for the money separately; and

(b) Use the money to supplement, and not replace, the money that the school district would otherwise expend for educational technology.

4. A school district that receives a grant of money pursuant to section 98 of this act shall not use the money to:

(a) Settle or arbitrate disputes or negotiate settlements between an organization that represents licensed employees of the school district and the school district.

(b) Adjust the schedules of salaries and benefits of the employees of the school district.

5. On or before January 1, 2005, each school district that receives a grant of money pursuant to section 98 of this act shall submit to the Department of Education and the Commission on Educational Technology a written report in the format required by the Department. The report must include, without limitation:

(a) A statement of the amount of money distributed to the school district pursuant to section 127 of this act;

(b) A record of the manner in which the money was expended;

(c) The purposes of each such expenditure; and

(d) Any other expenditures for similar purposes from other money available to the school district.

6. On or before February 1, 2005, the Department of Education shall submit a written summary to the Governor, the Commission on Educational Technology and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature. The written summary must include, without limitation:

(a) The name of each school district that received a grant of money pursuant to section 98 of this act; and

(b) A compilation of the reports submitted to the Department pursuant to subsection 5.